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Christine Rounds
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Christine Rounds
Signature Date October 21, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
Hiroaki Hara, et al.) Examiner: Not Assigned
on AEROGEL AND METALLIC)
COMPOSITES) Group Art Unit: 1754
Serial No.: 10/695,214)
Filed: October 28, 2003) (Docket No. 6872-0001-1)

Hartford, Connecticut, October 21, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

Applicant(s) submits herewith Form PTO-1449 identifying patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (b)

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (c)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application, or the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

☐ A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (\$180.00).

Under 37 CFR 1.97(d)

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee. Applicant hereby petitions for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, 37 CFR 1.97(d)(ii). A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

☐ Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i) (\$180.00)

CERTIFICATION (37 CFR 1.97(e))

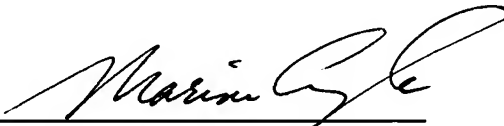
☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the relevant search report is enclosed herewith.

☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i)

☒ Copies of the U.S. patents identified on the attached PTO/1449 form are not being submitted at this time. Should the Examiner require said U.S. patent copies, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner contact Applicant(s) Representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment (PTO-1449)



FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)

Docket No.: 6872-0001-1

Applicant: Hiroaki Hara, et al.

Title: AEROGEL AND METALLIC
COMPOSITES

U.S. Serial No.: 10/695,214

U.S. Filing Date: October 28, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1754

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner's Initials</u>	<u>Patent Number</u>	<u>Patent Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class Subclass</u>
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- _____ "Metal-carbon aerogels as catalysts and catalyst supports", Studies in Surface Science and Catalysis (2000), 130, 1007 by Maldonado-Hodar et al.
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- _____ "Integration of carbon aerogels in PEM fuel cells", Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids 285 (2001) 283 - 287 by Glora et al. (2001).
- _____ Copy of International Search Report of PCT/US02/41205

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER:

Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).